

January 2012

If you have any questions or suggestions about the Clover Notes, please don't hesitate to call Roy Hillstock at (323) 260-3854 or email at rhillstock@ucdavis.edu. We welcome submissions, especially for Club News. Please submit articles by the 15th of the month to be posted in the following months' edition.

Contact the [Los Angeles 4-H Youth Development Office](#) or 323-260-3854. For upcoming dates, please visit the [4-H Calendar](#). We look forward to continuing to serve you and your 4-H needs.

POLICY

4-H Policy and Information Update

Happy New Year!! For some, the beginning of the year marks the renewal of ideas, commitments and goals that we've established for ourselves and our families. We also reflect on the contributions we make to the lives of the youth in our 4-H clubs. We reflect on the pathways that we create for youth and the opportunities that we lead them to. We think carefully about the activities we engage them in and the impact they might have on our members.

As we think through how we prepare and interact with our 4-H members, keep in mind that one of the primary goals of creating a positive 4-H experience for youth is to produce a *thriving* young person. We want to help youth connect, become competent, demonstrate confidence and caring, and make a contribution to something greater than themselves.

So, as the new year unfolds, continue to think strategically and purposefully about the ways we engage youth and ensure that the pathway they pursue is helping them to thrive.

CLUB

- **PVP 4-H in Holiday Parade**

Katie O'Daniel, Palos Verdes Peninsula 4-H Club Youth Member



The Rolling Hills Estates Holiday Parade was a great success! On the evening of December 3, we met in Starbuck's and then we marched off to participate in the parade. We got in line, and then we were off and waving to the people. We had decorated ponies, dogs in costumes, and Mrs. Keese in a bee suit! We were definitely extraordinary! We were on cable TV too. It was an awesome parade!

- **PBS Kids 4-H Audition**

Jenny O'Daniel, Palos Verdes Peninsula 4-H Club Youth Member

"Scigirls" is a PBS show for girls who are interested in science. Word got around that 4-H girls could make a video, and hopefully be featured on the Scigirls show. On Dec. 3, Rachel Klose, Meghan Tahbaz, and myself, Jenny O'Daniel all went to Mrs. Keese' house to be interviewed, and to talk about our science projects within 4-H. Peter Michel volunteered to make the video. After we got interviewed, we got into our bee suits, went to the hives, and talked about the science of beekeeping. Then we drove down to a local waterfall in Palos Verdes and talked about the water quality there. Meghan tested the water and explained the importance of keeping our water clean. We did our best to represent PVP 4-H and hope we get on the show!



- **PVP 4-H Club Community Service Success**

Ru Ekanayake, Palos Verdes Peninsula 4-H Club Community Service Chairperson

The Palos Verdes Peninsula 4-H gave a lot back to the community through community service this past November. The club collectively donated over 65 lbs. of food to the House of Yahweh Soup Kitchen, which feeds over 200 needy families each Thanksgiving. The club also had a meeting to make Thanksgiving themed table decorations for senior citizens. The club made over 100 decorations, which graced the tables of the Huntington Retirement Hotel's Thanksgiving feast in Torrance.

COUNTY

- **State Record Book Competition**

Dawn Fuller, 4-H Program Coordinator

Following our County Record Book Competition, several Los Angeles County youth members went on to compete at the state level. We are proud to report that the following Los Angeles County 4-H youth members were recognized at the State 4-H Record Book Competition with a medal:

Candace Corrales, Palos Verdes Peninsula 4-H Club

Alex Kasperovich, Palos Verdes Peninsula 4-H Club

Kristy Okamoto, Pomona Valley 4-H Club

All of these youth members worked very hard on their record books all year long! Candace, Alex and Kristy all have many other activities that they are very involved in apart from 4-H, so it is quite commendable that they kept such good records throughout the course of the school year, and won with their books at the state level. State medals are among the highest honors you can receive in the 4-H Program, and we are so proud of your hard work Candace, Alex and Kristy.

Hopefully this year we will see many more record book entries at the county *and* state levels. There will be a Record Book Workshop provided in Los Angeles and many opportunities to learn the ins-and-outs of why they are important, and how they are done.

- **Los Angeles County 4-H Food Fair**

Dawn Fuller, 4-H Program Coordinator



The **Los Angeles County 4-H Food Fair** will be returning on **Saturday, February 11, 2012**, from **9 a.m.-2 p.m.**, at the County Office (4800 East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue, LA, 90022). There will be a cooking contest, a poster contest, youth judging sessions and more. Save the date, and details will follow in future correspondence. We need volunteers to assist us with the Food Fair...please contact **Kim Espinosa** at klarae@sbcglobal.net to sign-up, or to find out more information.

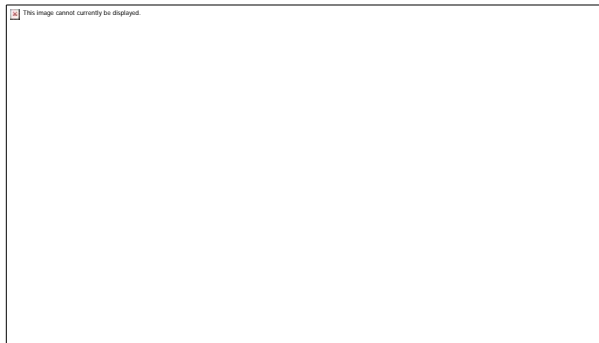
- **January County Council Meeting**
Dawn Fuller, 4-H Program Coordinator



The next **County Council Meeting** will be on **Saturday, January 7, 2012**, at a **later time than usual: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** The meeting is being hosted by the **Alta-Pasa 4-H Squad Club**, and Community Club Leaders, **Andrea Donnellan** and **Traude Gomez**. The meeting will be held at the Hill Avenue Branch, Pasadena Public Library, 55 South Hill Avenue, Pasadena, 91106. There will be no conference call option at this meeting.

In October, the County Council Meeting was planned and hosted by the **Harbor Lights 4-H Club** (led by Community Club Leader, **Kim Espinosa**). The new meeting format was the result of work by the special County Council Revision Committee. Harbor Lights 4-H Club coordinated the fun and insightful meeting. Harbor Lights youth members provided primary activities and **Daniel Espinosa** gave an informative speech for all who attended. The new meeting format is designed to get more participation in 4-H Council and make the meetings more rewarding and fun for participants.

- **SciGirls of Los Angeles!**
Dawn Fuller, 4-H Program Coordinator



The popular new television show **SciGirls** is selecting special youth in Southern California to appear on an upcoming episode of the show. SciGirls is aimed at youth between the ages of 8 and 12, with a focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Sound familiar? The show provides youth “hands-on” experiences where they can learn to solve problems, achieve goals, and help others. Where have we heard *that* before? SciGirls can be viewed on your local PBS Station (check your local listings for day and time).

We have “SciGirls” of our own in Los Angeles County 4-H! Palos Verdes **Peninsula 4-H Club** youth members, **Jenny O’Daniel**, **Meghan Tahbaz** and **Rachel Klose**, all have a keen interest in science. They worked together with their Community Club Leader, **Dee Keese**, to produce an amazing video entry for the SciGirls Show. Jenny, Meghan and Rachel provided brief bios, then moved on to science work with beekeeping, water testing at a beautiful waterfall and more.

SciGirls is currently reviewing entries for the show, and we hope we get to see Jenny, Meghan and Rachel in action, doing what 4-Hers already do--learn about Science, Engineering and Technology through hands-on learning experiences! Way to go SciGirls!

You can find out more by going to the SciGirls website at: <http://pbskids.org/scigirls/>

- **Record Books - What Are They?**

Dawn Fuller, 4-H Program Coordinator



In the 4-H Youth Development Program, there are many long-standing traditions. We may not know why we do them, or where they came from. 4-H youth members are encouraged to keep written records and documentation of their events and activities and submit them annually with a special green cover that says, "Member Record." For those new leaders and members, you might be wondering some of the following:

What is a Record Book?

4-H Record Books are an important form of keeping a written record/summary throughout the year of project work, events and activities, community service and overall learning and participation in the 4-H Youth Development Program. They are submitted for judging and competition at the Club, County level, and sometimes at the state level.

Why do a Record Book?

Record Books are a great way for members to reflect on what they have learned in many areas of their 4-H experience. It makes us look back on the year and say, "Hey! Look at all I have accomplished!" Over the years, our record books give us an extensive full picture of commitment, achievement, and success in a job well done. Completing a Record Book also helps teach us:

- Personal skills in financial management
- Personal accountability
- Record useful information
- Preserve our fun memories of our 4-H experience
- Provides a tool to share with others
- Helps us plan what we would like to do/accomplish in the next year
- Learn about planning and goal setting
- Learn how to document in a complete manner
- Will be a great tool when applying for college, jobs or scholarships

When do I start my Record Book?

You should start keeping your records at the beginning of each 4-H year (July 1-June 30) and continue to do so all year long.

Where can I get a Record Book cover?

- You can order an official Record Book Cover at the 4-H Mall at: <http://www.4-hmall.org/SearchResult.aspx?CategoryID=6335>.
- You can also use your own plain, 2-pronged cover (ACCO) which you can find at a nearby stationery store.

What are the key elements in a Record Book?

- Personal Development Report
- 4-H Story
- Project Record Report (for each project you are enrolled in)
- Supplemental Materials (photos, newspaper articles, SET Activities, etc.)

Where can I find the Record Book Forms?

<http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Members/RecordBook/RBResources/>
<http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/files/96733.pdf>

What are some Helpful Hints for a Good Record Book?

- Make sure to visit the State 4-H Website to view requirements and download forms at: <http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Members/RecordBook/RBResources/>.
- Include photos of you doing what you have mentioned in your Record Book.
- Write captions under the photos explaining what you are doing.
- Write as neatly as you can--typing would be even better!
- Document club and project events right after they occur so that they will be fresh in your mind.
- Include a title page, table of contents and tabs if you really want to impress the judges!

Where can I look for problem shooting solutions?

<http://www.recordbookresources.com/>

Can Primary Members (members age 5-8) turn in a Record Book?

Yes, to their Community Club Leader. Included in a Primary Record Book should be:

- A Primary Personal Development Report
- A Project Report Form for a Primary Project (listing the things they were involved in)

*Primary Record Books do not compete at the County level, as Primary competition is prohibited. They are only reviewed by the Community Club Leader. Primary Record Books are a great tool in which to start the practice of keeping records.

Will there be a workshop to learn more about Record Books?

There will be a special ***Record Book Workshop*** following the **County Council Meeting on Saturday, May 12**, from **12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.**, at a location that is still being determined.

When are Record Books due?

Record Books are due to the County Office on **Tuesday, September 11, 2012**, by **4 p.m.** or by **9 p.m.** to an **Incentives & Recognition Committee Member** on **Wednesday, September 12, 2012**.

Where do I turn in my Record Book?

Record Books may be turned in several places:

The Los Angeles County 4-H Office
UC Cooperative Extension
4800 East Cesar E. Chavez Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90022
(323) 260-3859

The Antelope Valley 4-H Office
UC Cooperative Extension
335 East Ave K-10 Suite 101
Lancaster CA, 93535
(661) 974-8824

Or, arrange to drop your book off with an **Incentives and Recognition Committee Member**:

Judylynn Pelling: jlpeiling@yahoo.com
Noel Keller: nkeller91711@gmail.com
Dee Keese: swimdude64@earthlink.net
Carrie De Young: csdeyoung@socal.rr.com

If members of my club are turning in Record Books, do I have to help judge other clubs' Record Books?

Yes. If you have any members in your club turning in a Record Book, a club volunteer must sign up for one of the following two Record Book Judging Dates with **Noel Keller**, *Incentives & Recognition Committee Chair* at nkeller91711@gmail.com. No more than three volunteers from the same club on any given day please. See judging dates below:

Saturday, September 15, 2012

8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School
6338 N. Figueroa Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90042

Saturday, September 22, 2012

8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School

6338 N. Figueroa Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90042

Can I turn in a Record Book On-Line?

Yes, for the **State** Record Book Competition, but not for County. However, you can complete the online record book forms, print them out, add any necessary Los Angeles County 4-H supplemental forms required for competition, and then submit for county competition. Go here to complete an on-line record book or to find out more information: <https://ucanr.org/4hbook/login.cfm>. When you go to this link you will be asked to submit your username and password, which are the same ones that you use for the 4-H Online Enrollment System.

How do I compete on the state level with my Record Book?

It is not necessary to turn your book in to the County first, but it is a good practice. The Los Angeles County Incentives and Recognition Committee will review your book for you and provide suggestions if you turn it in to them by October 26th. You must be a Senior 4-H Member (14-19 as of January 1, 2012). State Record Books must include:

- Personal Development Report
- 4-H Story
- Project Report (for each project you are enrolled in)
- Supplemental Materials (including photos, newspaper articles, SET Activities, etc.)
- Junior Teen Leadership Report

Senior (State) Record Books should demonstrate outstanding achievement in:

- Project Work
- Life Skills Development
- Leadership & Citizen Development

We hope to see many wonderful Record Books turned in this year and see all that you have accomplished, as well as the fun you have had this program year. If your Mom and Dad were in 4-H, maybe they still have their Record Books for you to peruse. Keeping records and putting together your Record Books are a very important part of the 4-H Program, and how proud you will feel when it is all done!

- **“South” Section**

Dawn Fuller, 4-H Program Coordinator



Many volunteer-led events in the 4-H Program are divided amongst four main “sections” of the state. The sections are: North, North Central, South Central and South. These sections are charged with coordinating and hosting various events (event leadership often rotates annually such as the State Leaders’ Forum). In the past, you may have heard the terms “Sectional Field Day” (Presentation Day), “Sectional Fashion Revue,” or “TIC” (Teen Involvement Conference). Here is a bit more about what “sections” actually mean for our program...

The South Section is comprised of several counties: Imperial, San Diego, Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino, Ventura and Los Angeles. The South Section (also referred to as “Southern Section”) has a governing body which is organized similar to the structure of the Los Angeles County Leaders’ Council (County Council). Sometimes, a “sectional competition” may be an entryway to state competition. An example of this is when youth compete in certain areas, first at their district level, then go on to county competition, on to sectional, and then on to state (i.e. Fashion Revue).

Teens (4-H youth aged 13-19) are invited to take part in a special version of the South Section Leaders’ Council known as the “South Section Teens Council.” The teen council helps provide recommendations and assists in planning for the South Section 4-H events and activities, especially the TIC Conference (which is designed for other teens in the state to attend). Both youth and adults are invited to attend the South Section Council Meetings, provide valuable input, learn more about the 4-H program in the state, and even run for an office.

The purpose of the South Section (and all of the sections) is to support the county 4-H programs in their sectional events and activities, provide a teen conference, and coordinate sectional competitions. You may recall that last year, Sectional Field Day was the responsibility of the South Section. Our representatives for our section include **Noel Keller, Dee Keese, Judylynn Pelling** and an alternate, **Rick Herbert**. These sectional representatives collaborated with representatives from counties in the South Section to host the event. It was a lot of work, and they did a fantastic job on our Sectional Field Day, which was held at Mt. Sac on Saturday, May 21, 2011.

We are always looking for adult and youth representation at the sectional meetings, and perhaps you would like to attend a meeting to find out how you can help! The South Section meets at Mt. Sac the second Saturday of the month in January, April, June and September (1100 North Grand Avenue, Walnut, 91789) at 10 a.m. You can also look here for more details about the South Section: <http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Volunteers/Councils/Sectional/South/> or contact Noel Keller at nkeller91711@gmail.com or Dee Keese at swimdude64@earthlink.net.

On **April 13 and 14, 2012**, the South Section will be hosting a **4-H Leaders' Retreat**, which we hope that many of you can attend. The retreat will be held at the Planes of Fame Museum at the Chino Airport. The retreat is being presented by San Bernardino County and will be a fantastic opportunity for leaders to learn all about the various "sections," and how they support the 4-H program in various counties throughout the state. This retreat will let attendees know what is available at sectional and state levels, provide presentation information for Field Day and Fashion Revue, have a silent auction, educational displays, special guest speakers, networking, brainstorming and a BBQ and Ice Cream Social.

There will be a registration fee of \$40, which will cover events, activities and meals for both days of the retreat. The County Office has received 10 vouchers for \$20 each, for prospective attendees. If you would like to have a partial scholarship for the retreat, please contact Dawn at dafuller@ucdavis.edu. For any further information, or to sign-up for the event, please contact Noel Keller at nkeller91711@gmail.com.

Our South Section Representatives are always an integral part of the events and activities that take place all year long, and we take this time to thank them for their hard work. We invite new adults and teens to represent Los Angeles County 4-H with pride in the years to come.

- **4-H Re-Enrollment (Youth fee increase)**

July 1, 2011 was the beginning of the 2010-2011 4-H program year. Each 4-H member and leader continuing in 4-H will need to log in to their family profile and re-enroll. To assist in this process, please download the "How to Re-Enroll" form from the LA County 4-H website. The 4-H Online Enrollment website is: <https://california.4honline.com/>. Remember, you must be currently enrolled to participate in 4-H and 4-H activities including fair. The enrollment fee for youth has changed. **The new fee is \$20 for youth and \$6 for adults.** If you have any questions please call Roy Hillstock at (323) 260-3854.

- **4-H Volunteer Resource Library**

Dawn Fuller, 4-H Program Coordinator

The **4-H Volunteer Resource Library** at the Los Angeles *UC Cooperative Extension* houses many useful and informative curriculum tools for 4-H Club and Project Leaders new and old. If you haven't spent some time browsing the wonderful resources available to leaders, you owe it to yourself to have a look! The library houses books in almost all project areas including: Small Pets & Animals, Cooking, Sewing, Gardening, Science, Engineering & Technology, Mathematics, Theatre, Cultural Studies and many more.

- **Be a 4-H All-Star**

All-Star is the highest rank that a 4-H member can achieve at the County level. The All-Star award affords 4-H members the opportunity to further develop their leadership skills on a countywide basis. Each year Los Angeles County selects several 4-H members who have applied and are deserving of this rank to become All-Stars. The Los Angeles County 4-H Program expects its All-Stars to contribute to the 4-H Program during the next program year. For more information go to:

[http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/4H Youth Development Programs/Applications.htm](http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/4H_Youth_Development_Programs/Applications.htm).

- **Los Angeles County, 4-H Leaders' Council**

The Los Angeles County, 4-H Leaders' Council is a group of 4-H Leaders that meets bi-monthly and organizes many 4-H activities for Los Angeles County. Find out who hold what seat, read past minutes and agendas for future meetings at: [http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/Los Angeles 4-H Leaders Council/](http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/Los_Angeles_4-H_Leaders_Council/).

- **Share your 4-H experiences** - 4-H'ers, share your 4-H experiences by submitting articles to be published in Clover Notes. Articles may include club news, photos, community service projects, and/or anything you or your club would like to share. Submit your articles by the 15th of the month to be published in the following month's edition of Clover Notes to Roy Hillstock, rlhillstock@ucdavis.edu.

- **Dates To Remember in**

January :

1. 1st- Happy New Year!!!
2. 4th- NSG District mtg.
3. 7th- County Council mtg.
New Leaders' Training
Training for Summer Camp Directors
4. 12th- Western regional Leaders' Forum (Montana)
Incentive & Recognition Committee mtg.
5. 13th- First Horse Bowl Quiz
6. 14th- Sectional Council & Teen Council mtg.
Volunteer Leaders' Training
7. 19th- SSG District mtg.
SGV Far mtg.
8. 20th- Teen Involvement Conference (TIC) 1/20-22
9. 23rd- AV District mtg.
10. 28th- Livestock Symposium



Happy New Year!

*Dr. Rachel Surls, Dr. Keith Nathaniel, Roy Hillstock,
Charlene Moore, Jennifer Dana & Dawn Fuller*

SECTIONAL

- **TIC – Teen Involvement Conference**

The California 4-H South Section Teen Involvement Conference (TIC) is a three day youth leadership conference for high school aged 4-H members of the south section. Youth who attend this conference will have a chance to: gain new leadership techniques, learn teamwork skills, obtain information on opportunities 4-H has to offer at a sectional and state wide level, meet 4-H members from across the state, participate in community service activities, and much more! The conference is completely planned and ran by the youth officers, teen council members, and volunteers. Go to: <http://www.ca4h.org/files/122176.pdf> for more information.

- **South Section Leaders' Retreat**

The South Section Leaders' Council holds a weekend retreat once every four years for volunteer leaders in southern California. The retreat is designed to help leaders' network ideas, learn about section & state wide 4-H opportunities, attend educational & informative workshops, and have some fun. 4-H members ages 14 and up are welcome to participate if accompanied by a chaperone. Go to: http://www.ca4h.org/Resources/Volunteers/Councils/Sectional/South/South_Section_Leaders_Retreat/ for more information.

- A **4-H shooting sports workshop** (Saturday, **December 3, 2011** 8AM-6PM & Sunday, **December 4, 2011**, 8AM-4PM) for the rifle discipline will be held at Rankin Field Range, 20000 Road 140 in Tulare. Participants **must attend both days** of training to receive certification. Upon successful completion of the course, the participant will be certified as rifle trainer and to lead a rifle project. There is no cost for the course. Bring your own beverages and lunch each day. To register for the course and receive more information contact Leah Harrelson at 559-684-3322. For information about the facility and a map, please visit the range website at: http://www.tcdsa.org/documents/rankin_field.htm.
- The 4-H Military Partnership Program is offering a **4-H Youth Training Babysitting Training course** for Youth 12-17.
Location: **Sutter/Yuba County 4-H Office**
January 5, 9:30-3:30
January 6, 8:30-12:00
This training is designed to help youth learn what it takes to be responsible, caring, trustworthy, competent, capable and safe babysitters. Youth will receive an Infant/Child CPR certificate on the second day. They will also receive a Babysitter's Tool Bag filled with essential supplies for babysitters. Bring a doll for fun! For registration information, contact Jeanne Christenson, jpchristenson@ucdavis.edu or 530-219-6608.
- Calling all 7th-12th grade students! The 9th Annual **Northcoast Youth Summit, "Target Tomorrow"** will be held on February 11, 2012. All registration for this event must be completed by **January 30th, 2012**. A flyer for this event is available [here](#), and all event information can be found at: <http://ysummit.org/default.aspx>.
- **Project Y.E.S!** is a national **internship program** engaging college students in service to meet the needs of military families. Specifically, Project Y.E.S! expands the resources of the Yellow Ribbon Program (YRP) and other youth & teen oriented programs. Project YES interns will work with an assigned professional mentor throughout their year of service and complete a community- or service-based project. Project Y.E.S! is looking for interns who would like to participate in a year of service through this program. If you are interested, visit: <http://militaryfamilies.extension.org/yes-intern-program/> for more information and application materials. Deadline to apply is **Feb 29, 2012**.
- The University of California, Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences will hold its **36th Annual Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Field Day on March 3rd, 2011**. The UC Davis CA&ES Field Day is the 2012 California 4-H State Qualifier for Poultry, Dairy and Livestock judging. To register, go to <http://www.calaged.org/registration>. Select the event (2012 U.C. Davis Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Field Day). Choose the link "Get Access Code". Complete the information on the form and click the register button. Please include 4-H next to your club name on the registration form. On the following page save the registration code and register later or simply continue with the registration at this point. Note that you may only register once so be prepared to complete the registration or contact us if you have any changes. After your chapter is registered, we request that you submit a printed copy of your online registration along with your payment. Checks should be made payable to "UC Regents" and mailed to:
Attn: Francesca Ross
College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616

Deadlines:

November 14: Registration opened

February 10: Agriscience Fair and Job Interview materials due

February 10: Registration closed

February 17: Payments must be postmarked – We are now enforcing a \$25 late fee for payments postmarked after the 17th. For questions email fieldday@ucdavis.edu or visit <http://caes.ucdavis.edu/fieldday>.

- The **2012 California Camping Conference**, planned for **March 23-25, 2012** at YMCA Camp Campbell in Boulder Creek, CA, inspires ideas and innovation and helps camp administrators create fun, safe, and rich learning experiences for both campers and camp staff. The weekend conference offers staff, volunteers, and teen leaders the opportunity to learn new practices, acquire new skills, and network with others from all over the state. One of our key presenters will be Dr. Jim Cain who is an innovator in team building and author of several books including *Raccoon Circles* and *Teamwork & Teamplay*. The fee is \$130 per person and includes meals, lodging, and all conference materials. The conference begins at 7:00 p.m. on Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday. If you plan to take the archery certification there is an additional \$30 fee for class material. Archery is a full twelve hour course. For more information about the conference visit the 4-H Camp website at: <http://www.ca4h.org/Programs/Camps/Conference/> To register online visit: <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=7206>.
- An event for all **equine enthusiasts** will be happening soon! The American Youth Horse Council along with Virginia Cooperative Extension is hosting a **Symposium** on **March 23-25, 2012** in Herndon, VA. This event is an opportunity to learn about horse curriculum, youth horse programming, network and connect with many resources in the field. Click [here](#) for an event brochure.
- “Shooting Sports Leaders - Mark Your Calendars!” – A **State Shooting Sports Leader Meeting** will be held **April 28 & 29, 2012** at the Oakdale Sportsman’s Club in Stanislaus County. There will be hands-on sampler sessions for adult and teen leaders as well as updates on policies and programs. More details will be provided in the next edition of Updates.
- **Quilts for Wounded Warriors Service Project** is continuing for 2012 State Fashion Revue, as our American service personnel remain in harm’s way. These quilts are given to the injured while they are in transport or in the hospital and are taken home upon their release. These labors of love will give comfort and awareness that people care as they connect with our soldiers and become a part of the healing process. State Fashion Revue (SFR) invites you to participate. You can make a completed quilt measuring 45”x 81” to fit gurneys and beds, or you can choose to make a square(s), 12 ½”x 12 ½”. Red, white, and blue fabrics are preferred. Over 60 quilts were completed in 2011 and our goal is to break that record this year. We are also accepting donations to help with the cost of finishing quilts. Bring your quilts or squares to SFR on May 26 at UC Davis or contact teacherc2@yahoo.com or maryengebreth@comcast.net for other options.

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, and TECHNOLOGY (SET)

- Think about applying to the **2012-13 National 4-H GIS/GPS Leadership Team!** Adults and 4-H members (age 14 and older) are invited to apply for this national 4-H leadership opportunity. Application deadline is February 1, 2012 to the California State 4-H Office. For more information view the application at <http://www.ca4h.org/files/133055.doc> and contact Steven Worker at smworker@ucdavis.edu.
- The **2012 National STEM Video Game Challenge** is open to students and game designers in four levels: middle school, high school, college and graduate students, and educators. Entrants have until March 12, 2012 to submit their ideas and games. <http://stemchallenge.org/Default.aspx>

- The **International Technology and Engineering Educator's Association (ITEEA)** Annual Conference will be held March 15-17, 2012 in Long Beach, CA. The theme for this year's conference is *Changing the Conversation: Improving K16 Technology and Engineering*. California 4-H will be represented at the conference! For more information, please visit <http://www.iteea.org/Conference/conferenceguide.htm> or contact Steven Worker at smworker@ucdavis.edu.
- Start planning – April 2012 – **Let's G.O.! (Get Outside)**. Do you like to get outside and play, serve and celebrate? Do you want to help others see how much fun it is to be a part of a worldwide movement? Then the Children & Nature Network wants you! In 2012 we will amplify our message to the world. http://www.childrenandnature.org/downloads/LETSGOFLYER_2012.pdf
- **2012 Google Science Fair** is a science fair that is more open, inclusive, and global than ever before. The Google Science Fair aims to be the largest global science competition ever and will be open to all students age 13–18 around the world. <http://www.google.com/events/sciencefair/>
- The Agriculture Council of America is seeking entries to the **2012 Ag Day Essay Contest**. High school students are invited to submit a 450 word written or two-minute video essay. The theme is "American Agriculture: Feeding the Future, Filling the Gaps." Due February 1, 2012 at <http://www.hpj.com/agdayessay/>

HEALTHY LIVING

- **Act Out Loud Traffic Safety Contest**
Registration Deadline: January 31, 2012
Join youth across the country and **ACT OUT LOUD** for traffic safety. 4-H clubs and groups are invited to participate in the 2012 media contest that includes creating a t-shirt design, billboard and Facebook page dedicated to traffic safety. All teams that register for the contest will automatically receive free iTunes gift cards (while supplies last) and have the chance to in up to \$40,000 in prizes. Check out www.actoutloud.org and register your team today.
- **No BULL Challenge**
Deadline: March 15, 2012
Students in sixth through twelfth grade are challenged to start an anti-cyberbullying campaign in their school or community, use video to document their campaign, and then submit their project to the NO BULL Challenge website. Win prizes such as a \$10,000 production deal, a trip to the Sundance Film Festival, scholarships and much more! Visit nobull.votigo.com for more information.
- **Special Recognition at 2012 State Presentation Day**
A special recognition pin will be awarded for youth who participate in State Presentation Day and focus their presentations on healthy living. This year's focus area is healthy food. Potential topics may include USDA's MyPlate, serving sizes, sugar-sweetened beverages, nutrition facts labels, food groups, nutrients, and more. Visit www.ca4h.org/Programs/Events/SFD/PD/Recognition_Opportunities for details.
- **4-H MyPlate Challenge at 2012 State Field Day**
The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently unveiled the federal government's new food icon, MyPlate, to serve as a reminder to help consumers make healthier food choices. 4-H is challenging you to show how you're making YOUR plate MyPlate. We invite you to submit a photograph illustrating how you're creating healthy meals using MyPlate as a guide. 4-H members do not need to pre-qualify at a county event. More details about this new contest will be released in January as part of the 2012 Field Day packet.

- **President's Challenge Educator Booklet Available**

Created for educators, the booklet, *Building a Strong Foundation for America's Future* is now available. The free booklet contains all the specifics of implementing a successful physical activity challenge in 4-H settings using the new Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA+) or the Presidential Champions challenge. Request your free printed copy by visiting www.presidentschallenge.org/tools-resources/booklet/index.shtml.

- **Fooducate Mobile App**

This application has a bar-code scanning feature that can be used to view the nutritional value of foods. 4-H food, nutrition or cooking projects will benefit from understanding more about common foods, including their nutritional value, trans fats and added sugar. The app can also compare two items, and offer healthier alternatives from its database. Visit www.fooducate.com for more information.

CITIZENSHIP

- Are you ready for **California or Washington Focus**? Get ready for a fun, active way to enhance your leadership and civic engagement skills while you meet other 4-H members from across the state and nation? Enrollment for the 2012 summer program is due **January 16** so check with your county office to see when they will need your registration form (4-H Staff will register delegates on-line through the ANR Portal). Financial assistance is available. Contact Pat English at: penglish@ucdavis.edu or go on-line to: <http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/Citizenship/Focus/>.

California Focus, June 15 – 19 in Sacramento

Washington Focus #1

June 24 – July 2, Road to Democracy - Washington, D.C.; Williamsburg, Jamestown/ Yorktown June 24 – 30, Heritage Trail I – Washington, D.C.

Washington Focus #2

July 8 – 17, Global Journey - Washington, D.C, Philadelphia, & New York
July 8 – 14, Heritage Trail II – Washington, D.C.

- The 2012 **California Focus** Program is looking for young adults ages 18-25 to fill **staff positions**. For young adults who enjoy planning and carrying out educational programs for high school students, this is the place to be. District Leader staff expand their skills while they participate in a valuable civic engagement program. The application is on-line at: http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/Citizenship/Focus/CF/District_Leader_Opportunity/. The deadline for submission is **Monday, January 16, 2012**.
- In 2012, California 4-H will provide an **outbound exchange to Japan**. Two programs are offered – a four week homestay program and an eight week program that includes a four week language development program and the four week homestay. Expand your world with an international exchange and increase your cultural competence skills while you have the time of your life. More information is available at: <http://www.ca4h.org/Projects/Citizenship/International/>. Applications are due **Monday, January 16, 2012**. (*Due to budget cuts, the additional exchange opportunities to Australia, Costa Rica, Finland, and Norway have been suspended*).

CALIFORNIA 4-H FOUNDATION

- **Revolution of Responsibility** Toolkit . . . now available online!
It is exciting to see that clubs from throughout the state have already embraced the **Revolution of Responsibility** by planning high impact service learning projects in their communities. The California 4-H Foundation has pledged to provide up to \$1,000 each for 1,000 projects to be completed through 2013. A number of projects are already underway and we anticipate a big response to our next funding deadlines on January 15 and April 15, 2012.

While 4-H youth already have a strong record of engagement through service learning projects, it is hoped that the **Revolution of Responsibility** program will encourage even greater participation and more strategic thinking around identifying real issues facing their communities resulting in projects that will create awareness and work toward concrete solutions. In the words of the National 4-H Council, our California 4-H'ers will truly become the "... *living breathing, culture-changing revolution for doing the right thing, breaking through obstacles and pushing our country forward by making a measurable difference right where they live.*"

Because these projects have tremendous potential to build strong community partnerships, leverage additional funding and donations of time and expertise, attract new volunteers and advocates, and create positive visibility for 4-H at the local and statewide level, Foundation and State Program staff have collaborated in developing a toolkit to support project development, fundraising, marketing and communications, and alumni relations. Adult volunteers and club members alike can access a range of resources, information, tips, and online connections that can be easily applied to their efforts at the local effort. Need a template for a sponsorship request? Unsure of the University policies around fundraising? Want some guidance around writing a press release? Looking for ways to connect with 4-H alumni? Seeking advice for using social media? You will find these topics – and many more – in the **Revolution of Responsibility Toolkit**, accessible on the California 4-H website at <http://www.ca4h.org/Support/RofR/>. Additional resources will be added to support club efforts to document their projects using film, photographs, storytelling, and other media to share the impact of their work. Check it out! And, be sure to give us your feedback – let us know what else can we provide to ensure that your **Revolution of Responsibility** is a success! You can reach the 4-H Foundation by calling (530) 754-0455 or by emailing www.ca4h.org.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- **2012 GEAR-Tech-21 Camp mini-grants** are now available! Participants at GEAR-Tech-21 camps learn about science, engineering, and cooperation through hands-on LEGO NXT robotics, GPS, and digital mapping activities. Mini-grants range from \$500 to \$2,000, depending upon the size of the camp program. Applications will be accepted until all funding has been awarded. <http://4hset.unl.edu/4h Drupal/node/165>
- Are you involved in service projects that focus on hunger issues? This may be the opportunity for you! 100 **Sodexo Youth Grants** of \$500 each to support projects that help to fight hunger in the local community of a youth are available. The deadline to apply is **January 17, 2012**. More information is available [here](#).
- The **2012 AmeriCorps Grants** are available to organizations who are working with AmeriCorps members to strengthen their communities in the following areas: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, and Veterans and Military Families. The deadline to apply is: **January 18, 2012**. Visit [here](#) for more information.
- **Come Join the Revolution of Responsibility!** 2013 marks the centennial for 4-H in California and the 4-H Program will celebrate by giving back to their communities with youth-designed, youth-led projects where participants learn leadership by actually leading, collaboration by forming relationships with other groups and agencies, and citizenship skills by actively seeking opportunities to make a difference in their communities. In support of this community development work, the CA State 4-H Office has consolidated the Requests for Funding (RFP) for Service-Learning, Healthy Living, SET, and Legacy into one application. Chartered 4-H clubs/units can apply for funding up to \$1,000 to support service-learning projects related to their club or project activities by submitting the proposal. An on-line application is available at: <http://ucanr.org/join/>. The next application deadline is **January 15**. **Applications will also be accepted for a third submission round until April 15, 2012**. For more information check out the web site at: <http://www.ca4h.org/Support/RofR/> or contact Pat English at: penglish@ucdavis.edu.

- The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, Inc. is sponsoring the **2012 4-H Honey Bee Essay Contest**. Entries are due electronically and must be received **on or before February 17, 2012** to Eric Mussen, ecmussen@ucdavis.edu. Please click [here](#) for contest rules and essay topic.
- Are you between the ages of 5-25 (or know someone who is) and have demonstrated your commitment to service projects in your community? **The Everyday Young Hero Awards** are given out weekly to a young person who exemplifies commitment to service. The nominations for these awards are ongoing and there is no deadline. Visit <http://www.ysa.org/awards/hero> for more information on nominating a youth today!

4-H All Stars:

*Amanda Ho, PVP 4H Club
 Alex Kasperovich, PVP 4H Club
 Candace Corrales, PVP 4H Club
 Hannah De Young, San Fernando Valley
 Kristy Okamoto, Pomona Valley 4H Club*

Jr. All-Stars:

*Ali Ryan-Phasil, PVP 4H Club
 Anna Wheeler, PVP 4H Club
 Brendan Bernardo, Encino Oaks 4H Club
 Candace Choi, PVP 4H Club
 Courtney Calleja, PVP 4H Club
 Ivory MacCracken, PVP 4H Club
 Julius Treadwell, Pomona Valley 4H Club
 Katherine Cho, Pomona Valley 4H Club
 Laura Griffin as a Jr. Allstar from PVP 4H Club
 Madison Cumby, PVP 4H Club
 Megan Okamoto, Pomona Valley 4H Club
 Rachel Cumby, PVP 4H Club
 Ru Ekanayake, PVP 4H Club
 Sallie DeYoung, San Fernando Valley Club
 Ali Ryan-Phasil, PVP 4H Club
 Anna Wheeler, PVP 4H Club
 Brendan Bernardo, Encino Oaks 4H Club
 Candace Choi, PVP 4H Club
 Courtney Calleja, PVP 4H Club*

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